

Lese language

Lese is a Central Sudanic language of northeastern Congo-Kinshasa, as well as a name for the people who speak this language. The Lese people, live in association with the Efé Pygmies and share their language, which is occasionally known as **Lissi** or **Efe**.

Although Efe is given a separate ISO code, Bahuchet (2006) notes that it is not even a distinct dialect, though there is dialectical variation in the language of the Lese (Dese, Karo).

Lese is spoken in Mambasa Territory, Watsa Territory, and Irumu Territory.^[4]

References

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Efe (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/efe/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

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3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Efe" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/efee1239>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

4. Bokula, Moiso & Agozia-Kario Irumu. 1994. Bibliographie et matériaux lexicaux des langues Moru-Mangbetu (Soudan-Central, Zaïre). *Annales Aequatoria* 10: 203–245.

- Bahuchet, Serge. 2006. "Languages of the African Rainforest « Pygmy » Hunter-Gatherers: Language Shifts without Cultural Admixture."^[1] (http://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/docs/00/54/82/07/PDF/Bahuchet_2006--Leipzig_Version1.pdf) In *Historical linguistics and hunter-gatherers populations in global perspective*. Leipzig.

Lese	
	<i>Efé</i>
Native to	Congo-Kinshasa
Region	Ituri forest
Native speakers	(70,000 cited 1991) ^[1]
Language family	Nilo-Saharan? <div></div> <div>▪ Central Sudanic</div> <div>▪ Eastern</div> <div>▪ Mangbutu–Lese</div> <div>▪ Lese</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Either: <div>les – Lese</div> <div>efe – Efe</div>
Glottolog	lese1243 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/lese1243) Lese ^[2] efee1239 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/efee1239) Efe ^[3]

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